

**Taupō Te Wheke Challenge**

**15 March 2025**

**Tapuaeharuru Bay, Ferry Rd, Taupō**

**Taupō Waka Ama Club**

**Pānui**

**EVENT SUMMARY**

Taupō Waka Ama Club is hosting its annual regatta, Taupō Te Wheke Challenge. The Taupō Te Wheke Challenge has a W6 21km race that starts from inside Tapuaeharuru Bay and goes out to the Mine Bay Rock Carvings show casing our beautiful lake. We also have a W6 7.5km novice/junior race, a W6 16km race and a W1 & W2 11km race that travels around Tapuaeharuru Bay.

**EVENT & RACE SCHEDULE**

| **6.00am** | Waka drop off & Ruruku waka/Lash waka |
| --- | --- |
| **6.30am** | Registration & safety checks |
| **7.15am** | Karakia & Race 1 Briefing **(W1 & W2 11km)** |
| **7.30am** | Race 1 starts |
| **9.00am** | Race 1 finishes |
| **9.00am** | Race 2 Briefing **(W6 Novice, J19, J16 7.5km)** |
| **9.15am** | Race 2 starts |
| **9:30am** | Race 1 Prizegiving |
| **10:15am** | Race 2 finishes |
| **10.15am** | Race 3 Briefing **(W6 Men’s, Women’s & Mixed 16km)** |
| **10.30am** | Race 3 starts |
| **10:45am** | Race 2 Prizegiving |
| **12:30pm** | Race 3 finishes |
| **12.30pm** | Race 4 Briefing **(W6 Men’s, Women’s & Mixed 21km)** |
| **12:45pm** | Race 4 starts |
| **1:00pm** | Race 3 Prizegiving |
| **3:15pm** | Race 4 finishes |
| **3.45pm** | Prizegiving |
| **4.30pm** | Closing Karakia |

**RACE DAY INFORMATION**

**Car Parking:** Parking is available by street parking. Please note all parking is under Taupō District Council management, you will need to read the signs and park accordingly. DO NOT PARK in the floatplane parks!

**Trailer parking:** Trailer parking will be above the bunker on Ferry Road up from Taupō Yacht Club.

**Food:** We encourage you to bring your own healthy kai, however a small range of food vendors will be available onsite to purchase kai.

**Toilets:** Toilets are located on the corner of Ferry Rd & Redoubt St.

**First Aid:** First Aid will be available at the registration tent.

**Rubbish/Recycling:** We encourage you to please take what you bring. However, there will be rubbish bins located along the foreshore.

**Alcohol/Smokefree:** Alcohol, smoking, vaping and any other substance use is not permitted at this event, including all premises of the event.

**WAKA DROP OFF & SAFETY CHECKS**

**Waka Drop off:**

* Waka drop off will be available from 6.00am on the event day
* Waka drop off will be in the carpark off Ferry road near the beachfront which will be coned
* Trailer parking will be above the bunker on Ferry Road up from Taupō Yacht Club, please be aware of your surroundings through this process

**Safety Checks:**

* All waka will have to pass a safety check and be marked before racing. Any boats not marked

will not be permitted to race.

* All waka will also need to pass a Biosecurity check for the gold clam, before competing.

**RACE RULES**

All entrants must be familiar with the Waka Ama New Zealand race and safety rules.

Refer to the following link for more information: [Waka Ama NZ Race Rules](https://www.wakaama.co.nz/content/files/5de490cea787e/Waka%20Ama%20NZ%20OFFICIAL%20RACE%20RULES%20_October%202019..pdf)

**AGE DIVISIONS & RACE EVENTS**

| **WAKA** | **DISTANCE** | **DIVISIONS** | **GENDER** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **W1** | 11km | Open, Master, Senior Master, Golden Master | Men & Women |
| **W2** | 11km | Open, Master, Senior Master, Golden Master | Men, Women, Mixed |
| **W6** | 7.5km | J16, J19, Novice | Men, Women, Mixed |
| **W6** | 16km | Open, Master, Senior Master, Golden Master | Men, Women, Mixed |
| **W6** | 21km | Open, Master, Senior Master, Golden Master | Men, Women, Mixed |

**FEES**

**Fees:** Fees for this event are *per person by age division*

| **PER PERSON BY AGE DIVISION** *(charged one fee according to age on race day)* | |
| --- | --- |
| **Age Division** | **Cost** |
| **J16** | **$15.00** |
| **J19** | **$15.00** |
| **Open** | **$20.00** |
| **Master** | **$20.00** |
| **Senior Master** | **$20.00** |
| **Golden Master** | **$20.00** |

**ONLINE ENTRIES & PAYMENT**

* Online entries are to be completed using the Waka Ama NZ online entry system on the event page: <https://www.wakaama.co.nz/racecalendar/lookup/2292>
* All entries to be completed through your club admin – contact your club admin to process your entry
* No entries on the day, no exceptions
* Entries close on ***Tuesday March 11th***
* Rosters close on **Wednesday March 12th,** rosters must be completed by close date, no exceptions
* Once entered, payment can be made online by your club admin to:
  + Taupo Waka Ama Club
  + 02-0428-0098029-000
  + Use your club, team name and division as your references

**SAFETY REQUIREMENTS**

* All divisions must wear life jackets
* All divisions must have the following safety equipment for their races:
  + PFD - Personal Floatation Device (per person)
  + 2 X Bailers W6, 1 X Bailer W1 & W2
  + Flare or cellphone in waterproof case
  + Spare Paddle - 2 for a W6, 1 for W1/2
  + Spray Skirt (W6)
  + Tow Rope (W6)
  + Leg leash (for sit on top W1)

**INDIVIDUAL & TEAM WAIVERS**

* Individual and Team waivers must be completed by all paddlers/teams
* All paddlers U18 must have their waiver signed by their parent/guardian
* Waivers must be handed in to the administration tent before your race on the day
* Individual & Team waivers can be found here: [***https://www.wakaama.co.nz/racecalendar/lookup/2292***](http://www.wakaama.co.nz/racecalendar/lookup/2292)

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

* All enquiries please email: ***taupowakaamaclub@gmail.com***
* All urgent matters please call: ***Stephanie Richards 021378854***